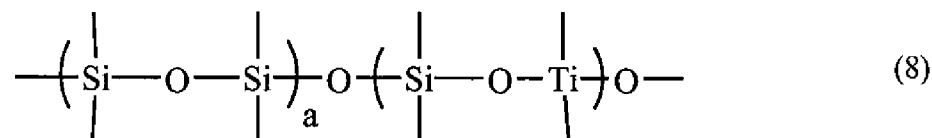


IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A coated powder having a crosslinked coating on a powder substrate, the coating comprising ~~siloxymetal units~~ chains of multiple siloxy metal units interconnected by oxygen atoms wherein the coated powder has no reactive functional groups.
2. (CANCELED)
3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A coated powder according to claim 2 wherein the siloxy metal units have the formula -Si-O-M- wherein M represents a metal having two or more valencies and the additional silicon valencies and metal valencies, if any, are satisfied by chemically inactive groups or atoms compatible with the coated powder and, optionally the siloxy metal unit includes a first oxygen atom ~~bonded~~ bonded to the silicon atom and a second oxygen atom bonded to the metal atom.
4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A coated powder according to ~~claim 4~~ claim 3 having hydrophobic and lipophilic properties or having hydrophobic and lipophobic properties.
5. (ORIGINAL) A coated powder according to claim 4 having hydrophobic and lipophilic properties and being dispersible in silicone fluids.
6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A coated powder according to claim 4 wherein the coating comprises a continuous, complete, coherent coating extending over substantially the entire outer surface of each powder particle, the coating being ~~tenaciously~~ covalently bonded to the powder substrate.
7. (ORIGINAL) A coated powder according to claim 6 wherein the coating includes chains of polysiloxo units coupled to the substrate powder, and metallate units interconnecting polysiloxo units.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A coated powder according to claim 1 wherein the coating includes the residues of a multifunctional organometallate compound, and of a multifunctional silicon compound wherein the residues are crosslinked.
9. (ORIGINAL) A coated powder according to claim 8 wherein the multifunctional organometallate comprises a difunctional organotitanate compound and the multifunctional silicon compound comprises a trialkoxysilane.
10. (ORIGINAL) A coated powder according to claim 4 being a cosmetic pigment or filler having an average particle size of not more than about 100 micron.
11. (ORIGINAL) A coated powder according to claim 4 wherein the metal M is titanium, aluminum, tin, vanadium, zinc or zirconium.
12. (ORIGINAL) A coated powder according to claim 4 wherein the metal M is titanium, and the coating comprises the residue of a chain of siloxy units, the siloxy units being terminated with, or interspersed with, organometallate residues wherein the coating includes crosslinking between the siloxy units and the organometallate residues, terminal units bonded to the powder substrate and terminal units capped with organometallate residues.
13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A coated powder having a coating on a powder substrate, the coating having chains of units of the following structural formula (8):

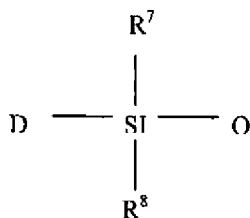


wherein a is from 1 to 1000, ~~preferably from 1 to 100~~ and the unsatisfied valencies are occupied by other units of formula (8), said other units ~~optionally~~ being crosslinking units, by powder substrate atoms or groups, or by residual unreactive groups.

14. (ORIGINAL) A coated powder according to claim 13 wherein unsatisfied valencies not satisfied by other units are satisfied by hydrocarbon groups, fluorohydrocarbon groups, fatty acid ester groups or mixtures of the foregoing groups.

15. (ORIGINAL) A lipid- and silicone-dispersible coated cosmetic powder comprising cosmetic powder particles and a hydrophobic coating on the cosmetic powder particles, the hydrophobic coating conferring lipid and silicone dispersibility on the cosmetic powder particles and comprising:

- a) cosmetically stable hydrophobic organometallate units of formula $(R_6)_g M_1-O-$ wherein:
 M_1 is a metal capable of forming ~~cosmetically stable~~ organometallate compounds of the structure shown, including any of the metals M;
~~a equals g equals~~ the valence state of metal M_1 minus 1 or minus 2, wherein, in the case of the latter alternative, the available valence of metal M_1 is covalently bonded to another M_1 atom or to a coating material oxygen atom;
 R_6 is a hydrophobic organic moiety including a ~~cosmetically stable~~ covalent bond to metal M or, when a is greater than 1, to an oxygen atom with an available valence and wherein multiple R_6 s, if present, may be the same or different; and
- b) ~~cosmetically stable~~ siloxy units of formula ~~D-R⁷-R⁸-Si-O-~~



wherein:

D is an oxygen atom with an available valence or a hydrophobic organic moiety including a ~~cosmetically stable~~ covalent bond to the silicon atom; and

R7 and R8 may be the same or different and are each a hydrophobic organic moiety including a ~~cosmetically stable~~ covalent bond to the silicon atom; wherein the hydrophobic coating is covalently bonded to the cosmetic powder by satisfaction of available oxygen valencies in the organometallate and siloxy units.

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A coated powder according to claim 15 wherein R7 and R8 include optionally saturated hydrocarbon or fluorohydrocarbon groups having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms ~~and other such groups as will be apparent from the disclosure herein.~~

17. (ORIGINAL) A coated powder according to claim 15 wherein the organometallate units include units having two available oxygen valencies, at least one of the two organometallate unit available oxygen valencies being satisfied by a covalent bond to one of the siloxy units or to another organometallate unit, and wherein the hydrophobic coating includes siloxy units bonded to the powder through organometallate units.

18. (ORIGINAL) A coated powder according to claim 15 wherein the siloxy units include units having two available oxygen valencies at least one of the two siloxy unit available oxygen valencies being satisfied by a covalent bond to one of the siloxy units or to another organometallate unit and wherein the hydrophobic coating includes polysiloxo units.

19. (ORIGINAL) A coated powder according to claim 15 wherein both the organometallate units and the siloxy units include units having two available oxygen valencies and wherein the hydrophobic coating includes polysiloxo units bonded to the powder through organometallate units.

20. (ORIGINAL) A coated powder according to claim 15 comprising a stoichiometric proportion of organometallate units to siloxy units of from about 0.05:1 to about 10:1.

21. (WITHDRAWN)

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39. (WITHDRAWN)

40. (WITHDRAWN)

41. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A particulate pigment treated in a one-step process with a reactive titanium species and a reactive silicon species under conditions causing reaction of both the titanium and the silicon species with each other and covalent bonding of the residue or residues of both the titanium species and the silicon species to the pigment surface, providing a coated pigment having hydrophobic properties and lipophilic or hydrophobic and lipophobic properties.

42. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A cosmetic powder ~~coated by the process according to claim 21-~~coated by a one -step process of providing a hybrid coating on cosmetic powder comprising coating the powder with one coating agent comprising a functionalized silicon compound and with another coating agent comprising an organometallate compound under conditions producing a coated powders.

43. (WITHDRAWN).

44. (WITHDRAWN)

45. (WITHDRAWN)

46. (WITHDRAWN)

47. (WITHDRAWN)

48. (NEW) A coated powder according to claim 13 wherein a is from 1 to 100.